

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY L/M:KEMALMBORG:AD
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JUSTICE - MR. HARRIS (INFO)
EUR/NE (INFO)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS STATE 310472

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UK

SUBJECT: EXTRADITION: DONALD EDWARD ECKESS

1. UK EXTRADITION REQUEST FOR SUBJECT SHOULD GO INTO FINAL COURT STAGES EARLY NEXT YEAR. U.S. ATTORNEY FEELS APPLICATION OF U.S. STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS, WHICH IS FIVE YEARS, WILL BE CRITICAL ISSUE. U.S. STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS IS TOLLED, HOWEVER, IF ACCUSED CAN BE SHOWN TO BE FUGITIVE FROM JUSTICE. PROBABLE WEIGHT OF AUTHORITY IN U.S. IS THAT GOVERNMENT SEEKING EXTRADITION MUST FURNISH EVIDENCE OF ACCUSED'S INTENT TO FLEE FROM ITS JURISDICTION. THERE IS SOME AUTHORITY FOR PROPOSITION THAT INTENT CAN BE FORMULATED SUBSEQUENT TO ACTUAL DEPARTURE.

2. JUSTICE SUGGESTION IS THAT UK FILE SUPPLEMENTARY EVIDENCE ON ISSUE OF ECKESS' FLIGHT TO AVOID PROSECUTION. THIS MIGHT BE, FOR EXAMPLE, EVIDENCE THAT ECKESS HAD KNOWLEDGE OF THE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BEING UNDERWAY AT TIME HE LEFT ENGLAND, OR THAT UK AUTHORITIES CONTACTED HIM TO INFORM HIM
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OF INVESTIGATION AND SEEK HIS RETURN TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.

3. SINCE JANUARY 31, 1977 IS DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF CONTENTIONS OF FACT AND LAW AND LISTS OF WITNESSES AND

EXHIBITS, DEPARTMENT BELIEVES IT IMPORTANT TO CONTACT UK

PROSECUTING AUTHORITIES QUICKLY AND DIRECTLY IN LONDON.

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